LAFAYETTE VISTAS

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

New Downtown Housing on the Way

A sampling of development projects that have either been approved or are currently under review by the City:

The Woodbury Residential Condominiums

The 2.46-acre site is located east of Risa Road and north of Mount Diablo Blvd. The 65-unit luxury residential condominium development will be built on the site currently occupied by the Hillside Inn and Suites and the India Palace restaurant. The average size of the condominiums will be just under 2000 sqare feet.

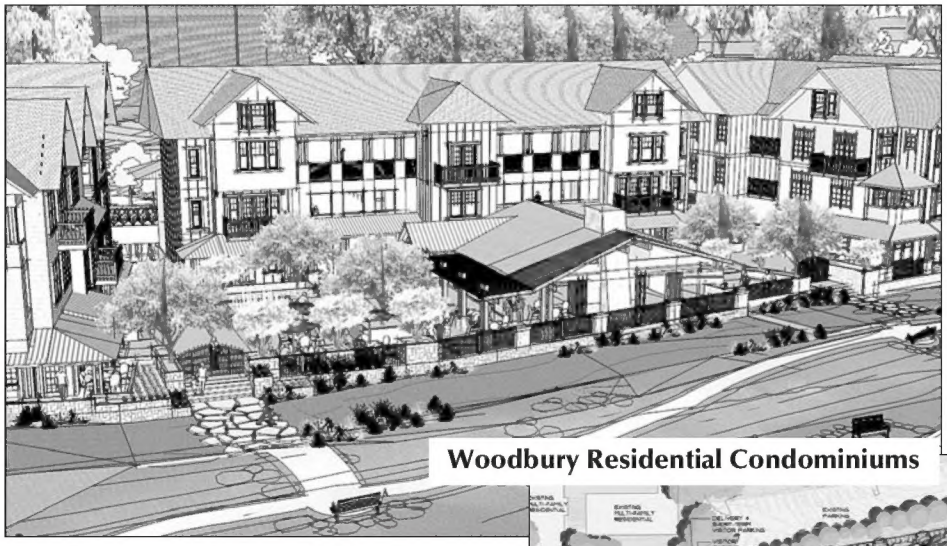
The developer of the project will landscape the 100 foot wide EBMUD aqueduct right-of-way to the south of the site behind the Veterans Memorial Building and the park-like area will be open to the public. It will contain an 8-foot wide pedestrian/bicycle pathway along the entire length of the right-of-way. Art pieces with adjacent seating will also be provided. Native grasses and plants will complete the proposed improvements to this area.

Also as part of the project, a sidewalk on the north side of Mt. Diablo Blvd. will be constructed from the Veterans Memorial Building eastward towards Trader Joe's. Eighteen affordable housing units will be provided off-site but within the downtown. The project has already been approved and is expected to break ground this year.

Senior Housing Development

In 2007, the City of Lafayette chose Eden Housing, Inc., a nationally recognized nonprofit affordable housing developer, to build an affordable, independent living senior housing development in downtown Lafayette. Eden recently entered into an option to purchase the 0.7 acre site on Mt. Diablo Blvd. between the Butler-Conti property and Bo's Barbeque and is preparing plans for a 45 to 48-unit housing project for seniors.

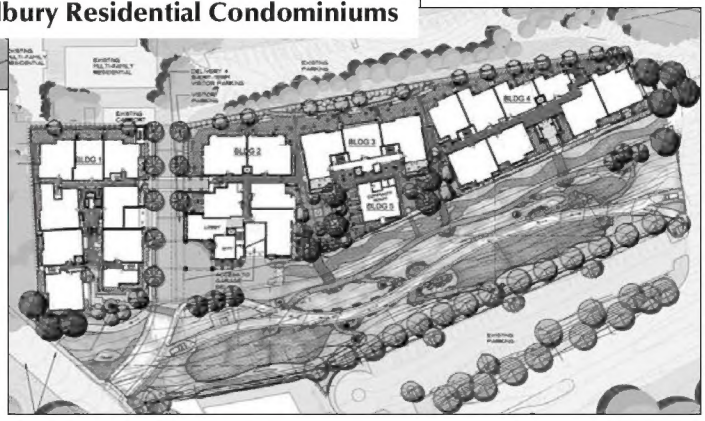
Funding for this project will come from the City's Redevelopment Housing fund, the County Community Development Block Grant, HUD and developer in-lieu fees.



Woodbury Residential Condominiums

Lafayette Park Terrace

A twenty unit residential condominium development is currently under review by the Planning Commission and City Council. The project is located on Mt. Diablo Court, east of the Lafayette Park Hotel and behind the Hungry Hunter restaurant. The units will range in size from 750 square feet to 1990 square feet. If approved, the developer will be required to provide three affordable units, make contributions towards a traffic signal and pocket park at the intersection of Mt. Diablo Blvd. and Mt. Diablo Court, and complete the sidewalk on the south side of Mt. Diablo Blvd. from the hotel east to Pleasant Hill Road. The medians between the hotel and Pleasant Hill Road would also be landscaped.



Town Center

The City and the developer have entered into an agreement that will allow either an office building or housing to be built on the parcel next to the Town Center apartments and the BART station. There are no current applications pending for this parcel.

If you are interested in learning more about these projects, or tracking them as they progress through the various City boards, you can access meeting agendas, staff reports and minutes for the City Council, Planning Commission, Circulation Commission and Design Review Commission at **http://lafayette.waterware.com**. Use key words to search for pertinent documents.

MORAGA ROAD CLOSURES THIS SUMMER

The East Bay Municipal Utility District is installing more than three miles of large-diameter water pipe from the Lafayette Water Treatment Plant on Mt. Diablo Blvd. to Draeger Drive in Moraga starting in the Spring and continuing into the Fall.

Work will begin on Moraga Road between Sky-Hy Drive and Draeger Drive, where two-way traffic will be maintained except for a few sections.Work hours will generally be weekdays between 8:45 am and 4:30 pm.

Specific Closures

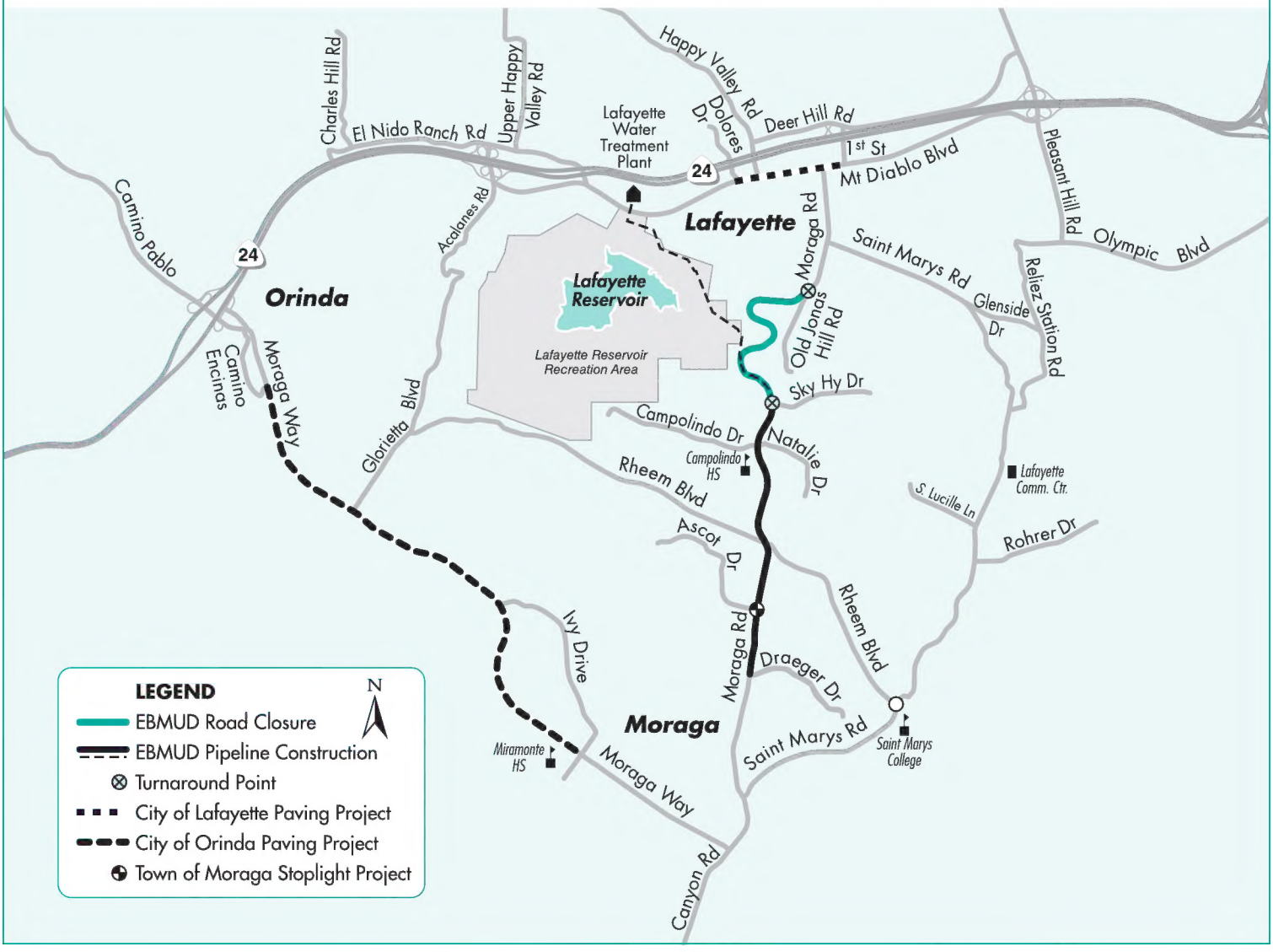
- From June 16 – August 22 a section of Moraga Road (south of Old Jonas Hill Road to north of Sky-Hy Drive) will be closed to through traffic weekdays, 9 am to 5:30 pm. Emergency vehicles will have uninterrupted access. Residents within the closure area will be able to access their homes but not drive through the closure. Access to Old Jonas Hill Road from the North and Sky-Hy Drive from the South will not be affected.
- The intersection at Rheem Blvd. will be completed in one weekend with round the clock work hours. Work hours in front of Campolindo High School or in any segment where traffic is limited to one way will be 9 am to 2:30 pm if it occurs outside the June 16 – August 22 time frame.
- Off-road construction through the Lafayette Reservoir Recreation Area is expected to occur after September 2008, and work hours will be 8 am to 6 pm weekdays and will require temporary detours or closure of portions of some trails. Neighbors will hear construction noise. The main access road will be closed from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm daily for eight weeks during construction.

Pipeline construction in Moraga Road outside the closure area will result in delays, especially where vehicles must be guided around lane closures. Traffic also may increase on other roads as some drivers choose to avoid the construction area. There may be brief interruptions of water service, but no major outages.

The new pipeline, along with subsequent improvements in water storage and distribution, will add much-needed reliability to water service in portions of Lafayette, Moraga, and Orinda.

More specific information on road closures will be posted on EBMUD's website (**http://www.ebmud.com/water_&_environment/water_supply/current_projects/moraga_rd_pipeline_project/default.htm**) as the project progresses.

Concerns, complaints, ideas, information? Contact Nora Harlow at (510) 287-0140 or email **nharlow@ebmud.com**.



Downtown Planning & Climate Protection

In 2006, the City adopted its Environmental Strategy. This forward-thinking policy states that the City is committed to developing environmental policies and programs that will enable the community to meet its present needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Consistent with this policy, a planning effort – **The Downtown Strategy** – is now underway and it includes several aspects of climate protection.

In order to study the issue in more detail, the City won a pilot Climate Protection Planning Grant from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. This grant shines a spotlight on sustainability issues for our downtown, and funds the development of planning tools that should help to reduce Lafayette's overall impact on the climate.

Climate protection planning for the Downtown Strategy has four components. One, establish a baseline of existing greenhouse gas emissions for the downtown study area. Two, evaluate the performance of alternative land use and transportation concepts. Three, develop draft goals and policies. Four, present the results for public review and comment.

The preliminary alternative land use and transportation ideas include more housing in the downtown – particularly near public transit – and a more pedestrian-oriented downtown. The initial analysis estimates that by implementing these concepts, greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced in our community by up to two percent. That's the equivalent of eliminating 1,000 pounds of annual emissions for each Lafayette resident!

As the Downtown Strategy process continues over the next few months, more information about climate protection will be available to the community. If you would like to learn more about this effort, check out the City's home page at **www.lovelafayette.org**. There is a section about the Strategy including updated information and upcoming events.

Household Battery Recycling

Did you know that common household batteries contain chemicals that can be toxic to the environment when improperly disposed?

In order to protect the environment, California has banned landfilling of household batteries.That means you ***cannot*** put them in your garbage or recycling carts.

To ensure battery recycling is convenient, the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority (CCCSWA) has developed partnerships with local retailers to provide convenient battery recycling for residents. You can now drop off your household batteries at the following Lamorinda locations:

Lafayette

- Contra Costa Stationers — 3643 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
- Longs Drugs — 3625 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
- Ace Hardware — 3311 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

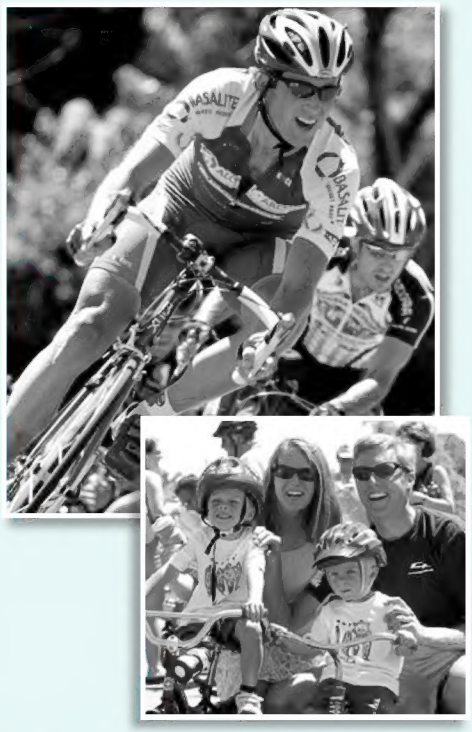
Moraga

- Moraga Hardware — 1409 Moraga Rd.
- Longs Drugs — 580 Moraga Rd.

Orinda

- Longs Drugs — 50 Moraga Way
- Rite Aid — 27 Orinda Way

4th Annual Lafayette Bike Race



National bicycle racing returns for its annual visit to downtown Lafayette on July 13 for the fourth annual Lafayette Criterium. Past years have seen large crowds lining the sidewalks on the downtown course, of Mt. Diablo Blvd, First Street and Golden Gate Way, circling the new Lafayette Library site to enjoy a full day of racing with events for all competitive racing levels and age groups for men and women.

Criterium racing is the most spectator friendly form of bicycle racing and unique to the United States. Fields of 100 or more racers fly around a closed course of approximately one-mile at speeds averaging close to 30 miles per hour and will sprint for victory at more than 40 mph! With sharp turns, small hills, and aggressive riders fighting for position, criterium racing more likely resembles roller derby and NASCAR than a Sunday ride in the park.

One of the day's highlights is the non-competitive kid's fun ride on the same course used by the pros. This event — always highly attended — is a benefit for the Lafayette Arts and Science Foundation (LASF). LASF provides top-quality curriculum-based programs and support in the areas of science, math, history, writing, foreign language, technology, art, and music to all of Lafayette's public school students.

Historic Snapshots

Old Betsy, the Firetruck

Ladies of a "certain age" don't always like to reveal exactly what that age is, and "Old Betsy" is no exception. Variously attributed as a 1919, 1920 and 1921 Model T Ford, –"Old Besty"– served as Lafayette's first motorized fire engine in the early 1920's. However, with only two gears, a top speed of only 25 MPH and a 50-gallon soda and acid barrel, the little truck was probably used only to fight relatively small fires in the downtown.

After retiring in the mid-Thirties, Old Betsy changed hands several times and ended up with a Pleasant Hill junk collector, Earl Sanko, who left it to gather dust until Lafayette resident Tony Lagiss rediscovered it in 1977 and organized a community campaign to buy Old Betsy back. Although a Montana collector offered $4,500 for her, Sanko offered to sell it to anyone in Lafayette for $3,500. With generous contributions from residents and the Historical Society, Old Betsy finally came home to Lafayette.

Former Mayor George Wasson and "Old Betsy"

In the intervening years, a dedicated group of Historical Society volunteers including LeeVolguardsen and John Kallio, have worked to restore Old Betsy to her former glory, replacing many of the engine parts, rebuilding the wheels and giving her a face lift by restoring her windshield and repainting the frame. Even the younger generation has now gotten involved. Since climbing under the truck is now a bit more difficult for the "old guard", Boy Scout Troop 204 recently helped put on new wheels.

Unfortunately, without a permanent home, Old Betsy has been a bit of a vagabond these past 31 years, staying first in a string of private garages, and for the last 28 years in former Mayor George Wasson's garage. That happened by default, because most people can't drive a Model T! An active member of the Historical Society, Wasson has tried for years to find a permanent home for Old Betsy where all the residents can see and appreciate her while at the same time she can be protected. And now that the new Lafayette Library and Learning Center is finally being built, that quest is finally over. Plans for the new library include a specially designed room to house Old Betsy that will have a large display window facing Golden Gate Way so she will be seen from the street and lit up at night. A room of her own and special lighting to show off her best features…what more could a grand old lady want?

For more information on Lafayette's history, visit the Lafayette Historical Society website at **www.lafayettehistory.org.**

City Directory

For Council Members call: **284-1968**

Council Members

Mike Anderson	**Mayor**
Don Tatzin	**Vice Mayor**
Brandt Andersson	**Council Member**
Carl Anduri	**Council Member**
Carol Federighi	**Council Member**

Messages to **all** Council Members:
cityhall@lovelafayette.org

Administration

General Reception and	**284-1968**
Steven Falk, City Manager	**Fax: 284-3169**
Tracy Robinson, Admin. Srv. Dir.	**299-3227**
Gonzalo Silva, Financial Srv. Mgr.	**299-3213**
Joanne Robbins, City Clerk	**299-3210**

Community Development

Ann Merideth, Director	**299-3218**
Tony Coe, Engineering Srv. Mgr.	**284-1951**
Niroop Srivatsa, Planning Srv. Mgr.	**284-1976**
Ron Lefler, Public Works Srv. Mgr.	**299-3214**
P.W. Hotline (to report problems)	**299-3259**

If you observe illegal dumping in creeks & storm drains or accidental spills on roads, call Contra Costa Hazardous Materials Division 646-2286.

Lamorinda School Bus Program

Juliet Hansen, Program Mgr.	**299-3216**
	Or 299-3215

Parks, Trails and Recreation **284-2232**

Jennifer Russell, Director	
Senior Services	**284-5050**
Teen Programs	**284-5815**

Police Services

Emergency: 24 Hours	**911**
Police Dispatch: 24 Hours	**284-5010**
Police Business Office:	**283-3680**

Anonymous Tipline, Traffic Enforcement, Suggestions & LEARN (Laf. Emergency Action Response Network), 299-3232 X 2205

Fax	**284-3169**
Address	**3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #210, Lafayette, CA 94549**
Website:	**www.ci.lafayette.ca.us**

E-MAIL: Council/staff members can be reached via e-mail using this address format:
First Initial + Last Name @lovelafayette.org
Example: SFalk@lovelafayette.org

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